

PEBSAS : JURNAL PENDIDIKAN BAHASA DAN SAstra
Strategies To Practice English Conversation

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ABSTRACT

The practice conversation method is important for students' development in understanding and practicing English conversations in real life, by always practicing with other people daily. This research aims to show whether the practice teaching method influences students' speaking achievement. The research was conducted in North Sumatera State Islamic University for 2nd-semester students in 2024 consisting of 28 students. Most of the students are embarrassed to practice conversations in English, making them look like they are not confident or don't memorize much English vocabulary, but they are still enthusiastic about carrying out several practice conversations. Practice conversation exercises can effectively show students' concern for their English performance. It tends to be revealed that showing conversations using English has an impact on student's English language skills

Key Words: Strategies, Practice, English Conversation

INTRODUCTION

Conversation is interactive communication between two or more people. Developing conversation skills is an important part of socialization. When practicing a conversation, somebody transfers his knowledge, message, and skills to another person. To support their expected goals in practicing conversation, somebody could use different strategies to support language skills (listening, reading, speaking, and writing).

In strategies for practicing conversation, we must have a target with a good accent, words, and sentences. Conversation is an activity that involves two or more people having the right thing to talk and listen without any agenda or content. The purpose of the conversation is to receive and give information, such as social relationships, negotiation of status or social roles, etc.

To create an environment that supports practicing conversation in English, it is necessary to agree on this. So that it

can help to carry out English conversations. Impact in English conversation can have many good impacts on us, especially English students in English conversation.

In fact, in conversation in English, the interaction of two or more people is influenced by the surrounding environment and the people around them, it is difficult for gangs to be engaged in this matter, resulting in a lack of fluency in English conversation. To train the practice of conversation skills with the person we are talking to using English, but many areas do not yet support this, which makes it difficult to have conversations in English.

By frequently practicing conversations, we can influence English well and correctly, because in conversation you can practice pronouncing and improve your English better. Therefore the writer wants to answer: What are the strategies to practice English conversation?

DISCUSSION

This strategy is important because it determines the teacher's success in achieving teaching goals. Especially for teaching speaking strategies must enable students to communicate efficiently and effectively. In this research, the author is interested in identifying teacher strategies for teaching conversation. Many studies have researched teaching strategies in teaching speaking, namely role play. A

According to Nunan (2003), role play is an activity good for speaking in class. According to Marianne Celce and Murcia (2001), role play is a suitable speaking activity practicing sociocultural variations in speech acts, such as praising, complaining, etc. Harmer (2003) states that role play is a real-world stimulation in the same way, where participants must speak and act from the perspective of their new character.

Pair-Work, According to Zohairy (2014), pairwork is an effective strategy that places two people together student or three students

in a group. Placing students in pair work makes their interaction meaningful and as a result, will improve their language production. Harmer (2003) states that in pair work students can practice language together. Also, students can write, predict read, and act on what they hear, read, or see

According to Harmer (2001), drilling is a way of inviting students to demonstrate and train their ability to use specific language items in a controlled way. Besides that Thornbury (2005) said that drilling has advantages, including making students pay attention to new material presented by the teacher and explaining the word, phrase, or sentence to students so that students can remember them in long-term memory and to provide a means of discovering the art curator's control over language.

Group discussions According to Maulidar, at, el (2019:86) said that group discussions are one. This is an effective strategy in teaching speaking because in group discussions students can be more active share ideas in their thinking. After all, it encourages students to speak as a means of interaction in discussion. According to Harmer (2001), holding group discussions can provide benefits its advantages, such as it can improve each student's speaking ability encouraging cooperation and negotiation exercises to improve students' problem-solving.

To practice English conversation, according to Brown (2000}, there are 4 strategies: role play, pair work, drilling, and group discussion

1. Role Play

Role play is one of the strategies for practicing English conversation. The role- playing technique is crucial to kids' development as real-world illustrations are understood. The ideal way to mentor children is through role-playing, which is relevant to their development,

particularly in their social, emotional, physical, and cognitive domains to acquire a second language in English (Anis, 2020). Applying role-playing as a teaching and learning strategy can help students retain more of what they have learned and improve their learning outcomes (Jiaotong-Liverpool, 2020).

As per Obijiofor (2020), roleplaying is one of the instructional strategies that the educational system has utilized since the 21st century and has received a lot of attention. A technique called role-playing can help students become more proficient speakers by having them pretend to be someone else, improvise accordingly, and create various scenarios in which the actual world occurs. Through role-playing, students can encounter real-world issues and actively apply their learning in made-up scenarios. (Turzak (2017).

2. Pair Work

Pairwork is one of the strategies for practicing English conversation. Pairwork is a kind of collaborative learning and a crucial part of the communicative approach. According to Moon (2000), the purpose of pair work is "to organize them [students] in ways that will maximize learning opportunities. When you work in pairs, you In pairs, students work together to complete activities and attain the goal.

One kind of classroom engagement is pair work, in which students collaborate. This might be for a conversation, answer verification, communication exercise, etc. (1994, Scrivener, 214). Scrivener lists five different ways that students can be grouped frequently in the classroom. Students collaborate with the teacher. Students interacting as a group as well as individual work, pairs, and small groups (three to eight persons) are all included.

According to Byrne (1989:31–32), there are two primary types of pair work aside from "open pairs," when students converse with one another across the room while you supervise. Both fixed and flexible pairings are among them. When students use the same, fixed pairs are created partner, who is typically the student on the left or right, to finish a work of some sort. Students constantly switch partners when

working in flexible pairings.

3. Drilling

Drilling is one of the strategies for practicing English conversation. According to Bambang (2006), the drilling method is a component of the audio-lingual approach in which the teacher instructs the class orally while the pupils subsequently repeat, substitute, or alter what they have learned. According to Maro (2018), the Audio-lingual method is used in conjunction with the Drilling technique. This approach is successful because English has been used extensively for a variety of reasons worldwide.

The learner will be guided in proper language usage, grammar, and pronunciation through the use of drilling techniques. According to Harmer (2002), who cited Maro's papers, the goal of using the drilling technique is to create habits by repeatedly using the right words and providing positive reinforcement. Fitriani & Usman (2017) claim that the drill is a method that could improve the ability permanently

They also clarified how the Drill technique is built around systematic representation material and is based on an approach that is proven with knowledge and efficiency that the learner can acquire and manage. quoted in Tice (2004) from papers by Aini and others (2020) Drilling is the process of repeating what you hear after listening to a model that the teacher, a tape, or another student in the class provides.

4. Group Discussion

Group discussion is one of the strategies for practicing English conversation. Discussions in small groups have social, emotional, and intellectual benefits. Intellectual conversation enables participants to recognize the range of viewpoints on a subject. Participants may emotionally invest themselves in the learning process in some way.

Socially, it involves fostering unity and mutual trust. It

supports the development of the participants' interpersonal skills and self-assurance in voicing their viewpoints during small-group discussions. According to Kindsvatter (1996: 242), small group discussions that split up large classes into smaller groups of students to accomplish particular objectives enable students to take more ownership of their education, hone their social and leadership abilities, and participate in alternative learning strategies.

Hastoyo (2010:33) cites Gulley (1960:62) as saying that a group is more than just several people gathered in one location. The completion of the group tasks required interactions, he continues. He also cites Hoover (1997: 13), saying that dialogue is the practice of discussing issues with two or more people, ideally in person. A group discussion's objectives are to provide and disseminate knowledge on a given subject, examine and assess the data, and draw broad conclusions by weighing the supporting evidence.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results obtained, it was concluded that conversation practice using 4 methods, such as role play, pair work, drilling, and group discussion, had increased conversation skills. This helps them to have conversations, express themselves, and participate actively. So, this is a fun way for students as they can share their opinions and knowledge. Students can while practicing as a team conversations with different skills and abilities. This helps students to improve their conversation skills. The suggestion is to use interesting methods and techniques in conversation practice. They can use the techniques described earlier. This will help improve their conversation.

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